

IFE OF MONTY

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Is this a hobby or WHAT 55c

WARNING! CAUTION! ATTENTION! Do not toss this Issue 96 of *Life of Monty*, published by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA, phone (1)(415)461-2692, but only from 5 PM to 11 PM Pacific time, and no collect calls (if you really want to talk but can't afford it, call me and I'll call back - pardon me for saving the collect call surcharge) - where was I? Right - do not put this issue into a lit fireplace until AFTER you let go of it.

News flash - remember that curse I was talking about a few issues ago? Apparently, 1992 has come a little early to some parts of Europe, as the Netherlands' Jaap Jacobs has announced cutbacks to *Oxymoron*. However, the overseas slack has been taken up by John Cain of *Victoriana*. (Speaking of foreign readers, what does this 'zine have in common with this year's DIPCON? A lack of Canadians...)

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by - well, the sponsor was disqualified at the last minute for failing a sobriety test; we can't have sober sponsors, now can we?

The latest issue of *Diplomacy World* features the DIPCON SAGA, but, sadly, no pictures of Matt McVeigh's famous brick toss. However, Cathy Ozog *still* looks like a brunette in photos. And the photos of me are in a sitting position, so you don't get the full majesty of the "official tournament director's uniform", otherwise known as the "bastard in the black".

Speaking of DW, Larry Peery published the North American Diplomacy Board questions (with answers) that were asked. Unfortunately for me, I asked "What happens on November 5, 1989?" - as soon as a certain former New Yorker reads the answer (hint; something happened concerning her 40 years ago), a certain 'zine just might not make it to issue 97 owing to "its publisher suffering a tragic accident - six cement mixers accidentally dumped their quick-drying loads on him"...



"...and in conclusion, I would like to reaffirm my stand toward uniting the Empire, beginning with uniting the opposition political parties in front of our firing squads." (Silence, followed by prolonged cheers, brass bands, throwing money - the works - after about 300 long-range high-yield

laser weapons are pointed at the audience.) (CLICK)

"Who turned off Lord Sacks Fifthavenue's acceptance speech?" Oboe-1 Caruso wants to know.

"Well," answers Princess Luscious, "he did say 'in conclusion', didn't he?"

"Don't you know better?" pipes up John Pole-O. (Baldo Calberchian gives him a stare after this question.) "Anyway, when he says 'In Conclusion', that invariably means another 45 minutes."

Right about.....NOW, 1LOM sounds the alarm.

"Looks like my cake's done!"

"Not THAT alarm, Princess. Sensors indicate a subspace audio-visual radiation detection ship is within range -"

"ATTENTION ON BOARD!"

"I thought I turned that thing off."

"YOU DID. YOU WANT TO MAKE SOMETHING OF IT? ANYWAY, WE HAVE DETECTED THAT NONE OF YOUR COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES WERE TUNED INTO THE EMPEROR'S POST-SPEECH INTERVIEWS AND ANALYSIS."

"Analysis?" asks Calberchian.

"You know," answers John Pole-O, "where the opposition parties start to make comments about the speech, only to have them destroyed by-"

"EXCUSE ME?"

"OOPS - of course I meant to say that the opposition parties commit self-destruction rather than pale in comparison to the supreme everythingness of THE EMPEROR!"

"We won't count that against you. Let's see - one count of failure to listen to all of one of THE EMPEROR's speeches, and one count of rigging the election."

"Rigging?" interrupts Rod Seaparter. "But I lost, remember?"

"That's worse - inefficiency. Energise the demolition packs - load the excess *Penguin Dip* - all remaining issues of *The Scribblerist* - and are those back issues of *Meeting of Minds*? Now launch - IN THE NAME OF THE ALMIGHTY HIM!"

COMBAT: Holland fights Beaufort at Weymouth (40-30) and wins (MERCENARY STRIFE/Majority). Then, Courtenay comes along to fight Holland (Holland 40-30). After a slight delay (MUTINY-Le Lucas (ignored)), Courtenay decides to run away (VACILLATING ALLEGIANCE - Courtenay returns to Okehampton), leaving Holland alone with Henry. Holland takes Beaufort prisoner and controls Henry.

NOTE: I realize that the "Vacillating Allegiance" rules in the new rulebook say that Vacillating Allegiance has no effect if there is only one noble on the weaker side - however, the version in my HRs doesn't say that, and they take precedence.

TURN 4 CROWN CARD:

TURN 5 EVENTS: non-events to Nixon and Ozog; ROYAL VISIT (ignored); non-event to Anderson; RELIGIOUS DIET (Percy to Wells); STORMS AT SEA (Le Michael to Douglas; Le Swan to Cardiff or Bristol, but if it lands in Bristol, it requires the permission of Knights of the High Sierra to move it out again)

QUESTION: "Can a ship pick up a passenger in the middle of a move and drop it off somewhere else later in the same move?"

ANSWER: No; pickup occurs at the beginning of a move, and dropoff at the end. However, if a ship and a noble(s) end their regular move in the same port, the ship can use a Free Move to transport the passengers (which are allowed to land at another port). Note that only one Free Move is needed to move ship and picked-up passengers.

DEADLINE FOR TURN 5 IS OCTOBER 26. Unless I hear otherwise, Holland will be executed by Berkeley and Le Swan will land in Cardiff. Here's the press:

DOUGLAS: The tears in Douglas are tears of joy as Le Michael sets sail from Bristol to Douglas.

HASTINGS-NOBLES IN WALES: Sorry I stepped in, but now I'm beating a Hastings retreat.

GEORGE-EDWARD OF MARCH (via WHITE DUCHESS II): "Hey - Eddie - why don't you just come out. Dad just got himself crowned King."

"I'm supposed to be king!! I'm going to just stay here and get seriously drunk!"

(Continued on the next page)

"What! You mean there's wine in Harlech!! Herbert - we've got to get to that wine! Get more men - now!!"

DIPLOMACY "LES MISERABLES", AUTUMN/WINTER 1902 / SPRING 1903 - Will SOMEBODY build units for Germany?

AUTUMN 1902: England retreats A Nwy OTB

WINTER 1902

AUSTRIA builds A TRI

ENGLAND builds A LON

GERMANY NMRs and (still) plays three short

ITALY builds F NAP

SPRING 1903

AUSTRIA (Melinda Ann Holley, P.O. Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727): A Bud-GAL, A VIE S A Bud-Gal, A SER S A Rum-Bul, A Rum-Bul (d/retreat to Ukr, OTB), F GRE S A Rum-Bul, A Tri-BUD

ENGLAND (Michael Hopcroft, 3936 N. Albina Avenue, Portland, OR 97227-1208): A LON H, F NTH S F Fwg, F NWG S F Nth

FRANCE (Jim Goode, 211 Maplemere, Clarksville, TN 37040-3558): F LYO C A Spa-Tus, F Bre-MAO, A SPA-Tus, F Wes-TYH, A Bur-MAR

GERMANY (Ed Allen?): NMR - has A BEL, F HOL, and A DEN

ITALY (Dave Anderson, Box 6092, Pontiac, MI 48059): F Nap-ION, F TUN S F Nap-Ion, A PIE-Tus, A TYO H

RUSSIA (Tom Slaughter, 1545 Northcliff Trace, Roswell, GA 30076): F Bar-NWY, A Nwy-STP, F Swe-SKA, A Gal-Bud (d/ret to Sil, War, Ukr, Boh, OTB), F BLA S A Sev-Rum, A Sev-Rum

TURKEY (Stephen Dorneman, 94 Eastern Avenue #1, Malden, MA 02148): F EAS-Ion, F AEG-Gre, A BUL S RUSSIAN A Sev-Rum, A CON S A Bul

going to raise their SC average for that game, there is a penalty of 0.1 of an SC per game-year a player survives, so a game that lasts long enough begins to cost the survivors points. A player's top two scores, plus top board, count. In all, 40 players competed over 12 boards.

1. (20) Mark Twitty
2. (16) Steve Kilmer
3. (12) Wes Barton
4. (9) Tim Haffey
5. (7) Carl Walter
6. (5) Fred Phrogus
7. (4) Tim Orel
8. (3) Brooks Chenault
9. (2) Chris Howell
10. (1) Ron Hawkins

TOP BOARD RESULTS - numbers in parentheses represent pre-board place

- A) Mark Twitty (1) - 10
- E) Fred Phrogus (7) - 5
- F) Wes Barton (2) - 4
- G) Carl Walter (5) - 3
- I) Steve Kilmer (3) - 11
- R) Scott Strobele (16) - 1
- T) Jeff Okamoto (14) - 0

As all of these players are locals, they won't exactly be in the running for getting their name on the cup this year.

PACIFICON NOTE: Jim Bumpas has decided to take next year off - as a result, I will be running the tournament.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

There were some complaints last year that the scoring system did not take into account the number of rounds played in the tournament - a tournament with 2 rounds was treated "the same" as one with 4 rounds, despite the latter being "a truer test of a player's diplomatic skills". After working on a number of ideas, I have come up with a rating system that takes into account the number of rounds played, while not giving this factor too much of a weight to the rating. **This system will be used for the 1990 IDTR ratings unless I get serious objections and/or change recommendations.** The new system is the same as the current system except that the number of points given to the winner of a tournament is equal to the square root (rounded down) of:

7.5 x N if there are two rounds in the tournament;

10 x N if there are three rounds in the tournament;

12.5 x N if there are four or more rounds in the tournament

where N is the number of persons in the tournament. (Subsequent places still score 80 percent of the next-higher place.)

TALISMAN "INTO THE WOODS" - SETUP

For those of you who haven't noticed, all of the games are named for musicals, and *Into The Woods* seems appropriate...

CHARACTERS (All players got their first choice, except the one that selected the Philosopher, as I found it too hard to enforce the "show the next Adventure card" rule in simultaneous play)

Pierce: WARRIOR

Hopcroft: SWASHBUCKLER - when the Swashbuckler wins a combat, his extra turn comes in the next PBM turn

Dorneman: WIZARD

D. Hanson: MONK

R. Hanson: CENTAUR - as some of you do not have the expansion sets, here are his special abilities:

- 1) Always safe in the forest
- 2) Add up to two (after the die roll) to each movement die
- 3) May fire a bow in Outer or Middle regions (must be fired in the same region as the Centaur) at any character, face-up enemy, or stranger, up to 3 spaces away, instead of a normal encounter. This is treated as a combat; the Centaur does not lose a life if he loses a bow combat.
- 4) The Siren has no effect
- 5) When encountering another Centaur, roll a die; if the roll is more than the encountered Centaur's strength, that Centaur becomes a follower until the next combat

CURRENT STANDINGS

Centaur, S3, C3, 4L, 1G, in Plains (Centaur is Neutral)

Monk, S2, C3, 4L, 1G, in Village

Swashbuckler, S3, C3, 4L, 1G, in Tavern

Warrior, S4, C3, 4L, 1G, in Tavern

Wizard, S2, C5, 4L, 1G, 2 spells, in Graveyard

DEADLINE for TURNS 1 and 2 is OCTOBER 20. Your two die rolls and (for the Wizard) starting spells are included separately.

Have any of you played the Talisman City? (Note that cards in that expansion have not been included in this game.)

**1830 "STARLIGHT EXPRESS", TURN 3 - What's this?
Somebody actually ran a train?!**

**OOPS - In addition to everything else, I forgot to list Dick Martin's
10% share of PRR last time**

STOCK ROUND

DICK MARTIN buys 10% of C&O for \$67 (\$4 remaining)

JIM GOODE buys 10% of C&O for \$67 (\$151)

RICH HANSON buys 10% of NYNH for \$82 (\$0)

CONRAD von METZKE NMRs

RICK PIERCE passes

DM passes

JG buys 10% of C&O for \$67 (\$84)

all others pass

JG buys 10% of NYNH for \$82 (\$2)

**NYNH is now floated with Rich Hanson as president - the
NYNH treasury is \$820, and a token is placed in G19(N) (the N
distinguishes it from G19(S) as there are two city dots).**

**All players pass, ending the round. RH has the priority deal card
for turn 4.**

OPERATIONS - MINOR

SV: RP \$5 (\$14) - C&SL: DM \$10 (\$14) - D&H: RH \$15 (\$15) -

M&H: DM \$20 (\$34) - C&A: DM \$25 (\$59) - B&O: JG \$30 (\$32)

OPERATIONS - MAJOR

NYNH: put tile 55 in F20/E; purchase "2" train for \$80 (\$740)

No dividend paid, so NYNH stock drops to \$76 (position C L1)

NYC: put tile 8 in F18/SW; purchase "2" train for \$80 (\$680)

No dividend paid, so NYC stock drops to \$66 (D L2)

**C&O: put tile 8 in G3/NW; run "2" train F2-G3-G5-F6 for \$70,
paid in dividends (DM gets \$21 (\$80), JG \$21 (\$80), CvM \$21
(\$80)); purchase another "2" train for \$80 (\$70)**

Dividend paid, so NYNH stock rises to \$67 (F 0)

**MAP: NYC, 57(SW) in E19; C&O in F6; 9(SW) in F18; 55(E) in
F20; 8(NW) in G3; 8(W) in G5; NYNH in G19(N)**

***Corporation names indicate token locations; numbers followed by
compass directions indicate tiles laid; G19(N) denotes the
northern dot of G19***

PLAYER STANDINGS

Goode: \$53, B&O (pvt), 20% (Pres) B&O, 30% C&O, 10% NYNH

Hanson: \$15, D&H, 50% (P) NYNH

von Metzke: \$300, 30% (Pres) C&O

Pierce: \$14, SV, 60% (Pres) NYC

Martin: \$80, C&SL, M&H, C&A, 30% C&O, 10% PRR

CORPORATION STANDINGS

C&O (90% sold): Par \$67, price \$67 (F 0), \$510, 2 "2" trains, token in F6

NYNH (60% sold): Par \$82, price \$76 (C L1), \$740, "2" train, token in G19(N)

NYC (60% sold): Par \$76, price \$66 (D L2), \$680, "2" train, token in E19

B&O (20% sold): Par \$100, price \$100 (A 0)

PRR (10% sold): no price

QUESTIONS ASKED: Jim Goode wants to know if someone other than the President of a corporation can send in operating orders. Yes; according to HR 6, anyone with a corporation's stock can send in operating orders for that corporation, and if the president does not send in operating orders, the person with the most stock in that corporation (among the persons sending in orders) has his orders used.

Dick Martin wants to know if NMR deposits that are taken away are "restored" every time the GM delays the game due to a GM error. There was a policy in LOM that gave sub credit for players in games delayed by GM errors (assuming they didn't NMR that turn) - for example, a player in 2 games got half of that issue's price back if one game was delayed or the entire price if both were delayed (in the old days, this was not uncommon - right, Rich?). If anyone makes a reasonable request for a credit because of delays, sub credit will be given.

DEADLINE for TURN 4 is OCTOBER 21

KREMLIN "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN", TURN 2A - All aboard the Siberian Express

CURE: RNM declares 1 on Boremtodev (K) and sends him to the sanatorium.

Aging: Aparatschik (A) ages 3 to 87, Protsky (E) ages 3 to 78, Manjak (P) ages 1 to 63, Boremtodev (K) ages 2 to 68, and Satin (O) ages 1 to 63.

PURGE: OLM declares 3 on Satin (O).

KGB head Krakemheds (E) successfully purges, in order, Protsky (U), Putschnik (Y), Wasolin (Z), Nogoodnik (V), Boremtodev (K), and Purgemoff (F) - and note each die roll was at least two above the minimum needed to purge. The purged politicians go to Siberia; Boremtodev comes out of the sanatorium, and *all declared IP on these politicians is lost*. As a result of the six purges, Krakemheds ages 6 to 84.

SPY: As Defense is vacant, Foreign chief Manjak (P) closes the investigation on himself (remove "?") and ages 1 to 63.

HEALTH: Aparatschik (87++) rolls 14 and dies; Krakemheds (84++) rolls 10 and dies; Manjak (63) rolls 1 and becomes 63++; Satin (63+) rolls 4 and becomes 63++.

RESULTS AT END OF TURN 2A

Party: VACANT

KGB: VACANT

Foreign: Manjak (P), 63++, NEP 3

Defense: VACANT

Ideology: VACANT

Industry: VACANT

Economy: VACANT

Sport: Satin (O), 63++, OLM 3

Candidates: Niewitko (D), 73; Mischif (I), 68; Karrienko (N), 63

Siberia: Goferbrok (C), 74; Purgemoff (F), 75; Boremtodev (K), 68++; Protsky (U), 56; Nogoodnik (V), 55; Putschnik (Y), 52; Wasolin (Z), 50

Dead: Aparatschik (A), Krakemheds (E)

TURN 2B ORDERS

Funeral Commission - this can be skipped, as Manjak must nominate Satin, who cannot be denied, so Satin becomes Party Chief

Replacement:

- 1) Party chief orders shifts within first level (rule 6);
- 2) Party chief orders promotions/demotions (6.1);
- 3) Remaining first-level openings filled (6.11);
- 4) KGB, Foreign, and Defense (in that order) order promotions below first level (6.2; note that the Foreign and/or Defense ministers can make promotions even if the KGB makes some or none);
- 5) Remaining second-level positions filled (6.21);
- 6) Ideology, Industry, Economy, and Sport (in that order) make promotions from People to Candidates (6.3);
- 7) Remaining Candidate vacancies filled (6.31)

Rehabilitation: all Politburo members may rehabilitate politicians in Siberia

Parade: Party Chief waves (or at least attempts to wave)

Don't forget about IP declarations (and don't forget that IPs declared on a politician sent to Siberia are lost, but *undeclared* IPs can still be declared once the politician is rehabilitated).

DEADLINE for TURN 2B is OCTOBER 21. Here's the press:

LNTC: It has recently been discovered that a group of communist subversives calling themselves the Nepreryvkans has infiltrated the Soviet Politburo. Agents of the Okhrana have been dispatched to arrest these dangerous individuals in order that they may be dealt with in an appropriate matter. The spectre of communism will soon be dispelled from the USSR. Long live the Tsar!

GAME OPENINGS

AREA-RATED DIP: Ellis, Cameron, Martin, Hughes, Nixon, Schneider(?) signed up. Need 1 or 2 more.

RAILWAY RIVALS: Map CN (California / Nevada) will be used, available from me or Conrad von Metzke (4374 Donald Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117-3813; \$1 each, I think). Cain, Ellis signed up.

New opening of the month: BLOOD BOWL Anybody interested in a Blood Bowl league?

HELP-DIP STANDBYS NEEDED

RAILWAY RIVALS "STOP THE WORLD, I WANT TO GET OFF", ROUND 12 - is this game finally over?

LEEDS-BRISTOL (13-55): NUT made the only legal run. (SEX's run required paying more than 10 to ECU - according to the game rules, this is illegal) NUT pays 1 to SEX.

LONDON-YORK (62-14): COSALT first, NUT second, SEX third. NUT pays 3 to SEX; SEX pays 9 to ECU; COSALT pays 1 to ECU.

HUDDERSFIELD - STOKE (21-32): COSALT made the only run. COSALT pays 1 to GOERS.

LONDON-BOLTON (64-24): There's a photo for the win . . . COSALT first, NUT second, ECU third. NUT pays 5 to COSALT and 2 to GOERS; ECU pays 1 to NUT, 4 to COSALT, and 2 to GOERS; COSALT pays 1 to ECU and 2 to GOERS.

PETERBOROUGH - SHREWSBURY (46-33): NUT first, GRCO second, ECU third. GRCO pays 4 to GOERS, 3 to COSALT, and 2 to NUT; NUT pays 1 to SEX and 3 to GOERS.

COVENTRY-WALES (45-S 5): ECU made the only run (to Newport).

BIRMINGHAM-SOUTH (52 -S 1): ECU first (to Bristol); COSALT second (to London). NUT's run was illegal as it was his fifth in this turn. COSALT pays 1 to ECU.

FINAL RESULTS

GRCO (Jim Goode): $322 + 10 - 9 = 323$

NUT (Conrad von Metzke): $202 + 60 - 15 + 3 = 250$

GOERS (Doug Brown): $211 + 14 = 225$

COSALT (David Watts): $149 + 40 - 5 + 12 = 196$

ECU (Brian Longstaff): $144 + 20 - 7 + 11 = 168$

SEX (Melinda Ann Holley): $83 - 9 + 5 = 79$

Congratulations to Jim for winning the first RR game played in LOM. (As far as I know, LOM was the first North American 'zine to offer openings in RR - even when Games Workshop had not delivered them to the stores! (I got my copy at ORIGINS in 1986.)) Endgame statements will be accepted through October 14. Don't forget that there is another RR game opening, using map CN (California/Nevada).

KINGMAKER "THE KING AND I", TURN 4 - Storm at sea and Hurricane Howard on the coast

Corrections: Holland is Earl of Essex; the Embassy had no effect as there are two kings

PRE-MOVEMENT: Scrope begins at Masham; Courtenay begins at Okehampton; Berkeley is awarded Bristol City; Stanley receives Le Michael

Nixon's Faction (Nixon)

HOWARD remains at Farnham

GREYSTOKE, GREY, and NEVILLE (m10)-Masham

Scrope remains at Masham

WHITE DUCHESS II (Ozog)

HERBERT remains at Harlech(g)

CLIFFORD (w9)-s8-Harlech(g)

KNIGHTS OF THE HIGH SIERRA (Westman)

BERKELEY remains at Harlech(g)

STANLEY remains at Douglas

COURTENAY (Okehampton)-d14-d7-h48-h55-Weymouth

KING'S COURT (Anderson)

ROOS (Coventry(g))-Kenilworth-h22-h31-h33-Bath-h43-h51-Weymouth (Free Move used)

BOURCHIER (Coventry)-Kenilworth-h22-h31-h33-Bath

BEAUFORT remains at Weymouth

Margaret remains with Bouchier - it does require a separate Free Move to move a Royal Heir

ROYAL ORDER OF THE GARTER (Hant)

HOLLAND remains at Weymouth

AUDLEY (Kimbolton)-h27-h23-h32-h34-h38

Le SWAN (s18)-s17-s16-s14-s13-s12

NORTHEAIN KNIGHTS (Moore)

PERCY (York) uses road movement to Shrewsbury(g) with permission from White Duchess II to pass through Conisborough

HASTINGS (w28)-w29-w30-w31-w32-Hereford(g)

"Prepare to warp out - heading +140, -100, +15, plus 1, plus 3, minus 1 - now WARP OUT"

WARP

QRAW

"Did he say QRAW?"

Yes, Princess, I did.

"ILOM, current location and status."

"Well, the *Penguin Dip* was traded for a stray *Alarums and Excursions*, and we are now in the 3D6 sector."

"Excuse me?"

"No, Baldo Calberchian, you are NOT excused!"

"Seaparter, that's NOT what I meant."

"In THAT case, I'll repeat myself - we are in 3D6 sector of the DIPPERS & DRAGONS universe."

For those of you who don't know any better, the "Dippers & Dragons" society consists of those of us who have both published a Diplomacy 'zine and written for *Alarums and Excursions*. Besides myself, there's Stephen Dorneman, Cathy Ozog, and Robert Sacks, although I may be forgetting someone.

"Forget this whole idea! How do we get out of here?"

Meanwhile, on a distant - well, that's a relative term, isn't it? And it can't be *that* far away, as it is able to detect the *Linoloum Falcon*, although who knows how sensitive their equipment is?

"Report on sensitivity of equipment!"

"That's a rather personal question. (SLAP) NOT so HARD!"

"Equipment appears to be sensitive enough to be moderately affected by sudden exaggerated contact by the palm of my right hand."

"Sir, there's a ship within detection range, bearing 346 by 227, range 100,000 and holding paralell."

"Go ahead and detect it."

"Well, we already did - how do you think we found out that it was there? (SLAP SLAP) WHAT was THAT for?"

"One, for ending your last sentence with a preposition, and if you say 'I hadn't finished the sentence when you slapped me', you'll earn another one, and two, for calling me 'Sir'."

"Sorry, ma'am."

Who are these people, anyway? Do they know plenty of STRANGE and FASCINATING THINGS that WE are barely CAPABLE of COMPREHENDING, or are they just jerks that like looking on outsiders as a joke? You might find out next time . . .

MEETING OF MINDS

This is the 30th edition of *Meeting of Minds*, the subzine of International Diplomacy Tournament Ratings (IDTR), published by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA.

NEW SOUTH WALES DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP

was held June 10-12 as part of "Diplomacy Expo" in Sydney; the tournament was run by Luke Clutterbuck and Neil Ashworth, and 40 persons participated in this three round event.

IDTR points awarded for this tournament are in parentheses

1. (20) Robert Stephenson - Best England, Best Russia
2. (16) Harry Kolatas
3. (12) Steve Gould - Best Turkey
4. (9) Daryl Winder
5. (7) John Cain
6. (5) Adrian Fegan - Junior Champion
7. (4) Michael Floyd
8. (3) Clive Lane
9. (2) Terry Tolhurst - Most Sporting
10. (1) Martin Kloosterman - Best France, Best Junior
11. Thorin Munro
12. Anthony Douglas
13. Guy Tate - Best New Player
14. Kellie Massey
15. Craig Sedgwick - Best Italy
16. Craig Roberts - Best Austria
17. Lecann Day - Best Germany

PACIFICON

was held, for the tenth time, in San Mateo, just south of San Francisco. What makes the Pacificon Dip tournament (run by Jim Bumpas for the tenth time, by the way) different from the others is in the lack of specific rounds; from the opening of the convention until the start of the top board - 48 hours later - a game can begin when seven players get together (provided they haven't met in the tournament and no two players are "local"). Note that in this year's top board, the number 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 14, and 16 players participated, as they were the top seven players present at the scheduled top board starting time.

The scoring system is a combination place and SC-average system; however, to prevent two players from keeping a 17-17

STANDBY FOR GERMANY: Will SCOTT CAMERON, 4 MEADOW LANE, HICKSVILLE, NY 11801-5304, submit standby orders for Germany?

SUMMER/FALL 1903 DEADLINE is OCTOBER 27

PRESS

MOSCOW-BERLIN: If both of my opponents stop moving, I'll be in London and Vienna soon . . . see ya there. In other words, I am jealous. But, anyway, **CONGRATULATIONS!**

GM-MOSCOW: What did he do?

TURKEY: News flash! Recently released pirate versions of *The Wizard of Oz* seem to have been altered by their purveyors, and customers are warned to beware of these unauthorized adulterated copies. The pirates are believed to be disgrunteled Turkish nationals, as evidenced by their changing the "Wicked Witch of the West" to the "Wicked Witch of West Virginia", and having the witch pour her potion over a map of France and England while chanting, "Poppies . . . poppies will make them sleep."

"What's this? **WHITE SPACE?** Fleet Syria, report to the GM immediately!"

But Fleet Syria is nowhere to be seen in the hobby - has he finally *escaped*? Is he, as he always put it, not a unit but a **FREE PLAYER**? Someone who will **NOT** be attacked, supported, convoyed, dislodged, retreated, built, removed, or **ORDERED**? **SOMEONE** who will **NEVER REVEAL** the reason **WHY** he **RESIGNED** from the **HOBBY** in the **FIRST PLACE**?

"Calm down - you're getting too excited. We let him escape - we know where he's headed. All roads lead back to The Hobby. Besides, he still hasn't figured out who is the Hobby Master."

"Sir," reports Army Warsaw, "we have detected a single airplane on a direct course for Switzerland - a bomber of some sort."

"Don't worry" - and as he says that, the airplane disappears from the screen, to be replaced by Fleet Syria falling into a net.

"Airplanes don't exist in Diplomacy. Watch your back."

d i p r i s o n e r

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